

## Message Text

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73-60

ACTION DLOS-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-10 AGR-10 AID-05

CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 OFA-01 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-04 ERDA-07 FMC-02 TRSE-00

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-10 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

NSF-02 OES-05 OMB-01 PA-02 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 /147 W

----- 012385

R 232149Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8385

UNCLAS OTTAWA 4791

POUCHED INFO ALL CANADIAN POSTS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS, CA

SUBJ: CONTINENTAL SHELF DISCUSSIONS

1. FOLLOWING EXCHANGE TOOK PLACE IN HOUSE OF COMMONS QUESTION PERIOD, DECEMBER 19, 1975.

2. QUOTE: MR. J.M. FORRESTALL (DARTMOUTH-HALIFAX EAST):  
MR. SPEAKER, I HAVE A QUESTION FOR THE ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS. IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AFTER THE MEETING IN OTTAWA ON DECEMBER 15 BETWEEN CANADIAN AND UNITED STATES OFFICIALS ON THE DELIMITATION OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF IN THE GULF OF MAINE AREA SAID ONLY THAT THERE WAS A FULL AND FRANK EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AND THAT TALKS WOULD RESUME IN THE NEAR FUTURE, WOULD THE ACTING MINISTER SHED A LITTLE LIGHT ON THIS PARTICULAR MATTER AND GIVE THE HOUSE SOME INDICATION OF CANADA'S POSITION AT THIS POINT IN TIME?

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3. "HON. MITCHELL SHARP (ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS): MR. SPEAKER, THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION REMAINS AS IT HAS BEEN, NAMELY, THAT THE PRINCIPLE OF EQUI-DISTANCE SHOULD BE APPLIED TO THE DELIMITATION OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF OFF THE GULF OF MAINE. THIS PRINCIPLE OF EQUI-DISTANCE WAS EN-  
UNCIATED AT THE 1968 CONTINENTAL SHELF CONVENTION TO WHICH BOTH CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES ARE PARTIES.

4. "MR. FORRESTALL: MR. SPEAKER, COULD THE ACTING MINISTER INDICATE TO THE HOUSE WHETHER OR NOT THE GOVERNMENT BELIEVES AT THIS POINT IN TIME THAT THIS PROBLEM MIGHT BE NEARING RESOLUTION AND, PARTICULARLY, WHETHER OR NOT WE ARE MOVING ANY CLOSER TO A SETTLEMENT WITH REGARD TO THE CLAIMS IN RES-  
PECT OF THE STRAITS OF JUAN DE FUCA THE ALASKAN PANHANDLE AND THE BEAUFORT SEA.

5. "MR. SHARP: THESE ARE ALL DIFFERENT PROBLEMS. WHETHER OR NOT THIS PRINCIPLE OF EQUIDISTANCE WOULD APPLY ON THE PACI-  
FIC COAST AS WELL AS THE ATLANTIC COAST IS A DIFFERENT MATTER. WE BELIEVE, IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, WITH THE LIMITATION IN RESPECT OF MAINE ON THE ATLANTIC, THAT EQUIDISTANCE IS THE PROPER PRINCIPLE, BUT ON THE PACIFIC COAST THERE MAY BE CIR-  
CUMSTANCES WHICH WOULD DECIDE OTHERWISE.

END QUOTE.  
JOHNSON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TERRITORIAL SEA LIMIT, CONTINENTAL SHELF, MEETINGS, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE, LOWER HOUSE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 DEC 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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